MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

1 - DeLoach
1 - Sullivan
1 - Branigan
1 - Conrad
1 - Wick

Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
Wick
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

TO : MR. DeLOACH

DATE: June 22, 1966

FROM : STERLING B. DONAHOE

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

On the evening of June 21, 1966, Mr. Irving Duggan in the office of S. Douglass Cater, Jr., Special Assistant to the President, called me from the White House.

He inquired as to whether the Bureau was in possession of evidence which had been acquired in connection with the investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy. I told him the Bureau did have such evidence which was being held subject to a ruling by the Attorney General as to its disposition.

In this regard, Duggan advised that Mr. Cater had received an inquiry as to whether the FBI had picked up a radio from Oswald which allegedly was used by Oswald to listen to broadcasts from Cuba. After checking I told Mr. Duggan that a brown, plastic, portable radio was in our custody which had been picked up in a search of Oswald's residence after his arrest. (This is exhibit A-2.) I told him that I was not aware of any prior allegation that Oswald had used it to receive broadcasts from Cuba and this would require further checking. He advised this was immaterial for the purposes of his inquiry and no further checking need be made. He expressed appreciation.

On June 22, 1966, Mr. Cater called me personally to explain the background of the inquiry. He advised that Max Ascoli, publisher of the Reporter magazine, described by Cater as a friend of the President, is planning a responsible article on the assassination of President Kennedy to rebut some of more sensational books recently published which have taken issue with the Warren Commission report. (Our relationship with the Reporter magazine has been most unfavorable.)

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Mr. Cater advised the article is being prepared by Al Newman who is researching the motivation of Oswald and has developed a theory that he may have been influenced by listening to inflamatory remarks by Castro on the radio set found in his

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ENCLOSURE

"ENCLOSURE ATTACHED"

possession. Cater said he did not know whether this theory was developed from facts publicly revealed about our investigation and, of course, the validity of the theory would depend upon whether or not the radio set was capable of receiving Cuban broadcasts. He said he understood the set was Russian-made and he wondered if it would be possible for Newman to look at the set. I told him in this regard the FBI was the custodian of exhibits in this case on behalf of the Attorney General and any question as to examining evidence acquired would have to be resolved by him with the Attorney General. Mr. Cater said he understood this but asked that we furnish him any available data regarding the radio and any possible use of it by Oswald to listen to Cuban radio broadcasts. In the alternative, he asked about putting Al Newman in touch with someone in the Bureau to discuss this theory. I told him I saw no necessity for this as we would not give out data to a reporter on this case.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend Domestic Intelligence Division prepare an appropriate written reply to Mr. Cater informing him as to what we know regarding the radio, its capacity to receive Cuban broadcasts and any data we may have received as to its use in this regard. Our reply should specifically suggest that prior to furnishing this information to any publication, it should be cleared with the Attorney General.